

# LONDON metro®

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## MEMORIAL CUP MARKERS

It's the first one of its kind, but there soon will be more decorative Memorial Cup flags, similar to this one, on lampposts downtown. The flags, which made their debut Tuesday, come as the London Knights prepare to play host to the national major junior hockey championship May 16-25. Once the final touch-ups are complete, there will be 200 of them flapping in the breeze. SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

### Fight over spending starts with ... fridge magnets?

Council has heated debate over proposal to limit how taxpayer money is spent **PAGE 3**

### Will player's death spur OHL policy changes?

Psychologist says athletes must be given the tools to cope with pressure **PAGE 17**

## Cash for needles

**Ward 4.** Councillor proposing 'refund' to put discarded syringes in their place



**SCOTT TAYLOR**  
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More than a million syringes distributed to drug users in London each year aren't properly returned — easily found in back alleys, parks and even private lawns.

Now, Ward 4 Coun. Stephen Orser, who's also the newly minted vice-chair of the board for the Middlesex-London Health Unit, wants to do something about that.

He plans to float a proposal at Thursday's board meeting that calls for people to be paid when they return needles to agencies that distribute them. The system would work much like the refund people receive for empty cans and bottles.

"I'm dealing with a mil-

#### At a glance

- In 2013, the Counterpoint Needle and Syringe Program distributed nearly 2.4 million needles/syringes. Just more than 1.2 million of them were returned.
- The program is operated by the Regional HIV/AIDS Connection and funded through the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

lion missing needles, and I want to put a 25-cent refund on them," he told Metro. "I believe that sometimes the simplest solution is the most effective. I know as the Ward 4 councillor and the vice-chair of the health board, the calls I'm getting about needles (are) from all over the place.

"People are frustrated." Orser's proposing that all needles handed out, along with those sold at pharmacies, have a 25-cent return

stamp on them. Under the plan, the Health Unit would pay the freight for the return. "If a guy is there shooting up and he knows that if he collects 100 needles he gets \$25, believe me, he's going to do it," he said.

There would be no initial deposit, he added, which means the return costs would come directly from the Health Unit's budget.

Orser also wants pharmacies to take responsibility for the return of the syringes they sell.

"If you're selling these things and profiting, you have to become a return player," he said.

Colour coding the needles so you can tell where they came from and offering safe containers for those collecting them are also part of his idea.

Orser won't be at Thursday's meeting because he has a time conflict with the Old East Village Safety Neighbourhood Task Force but said the motion will be delivered beforehand.



## Spring OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, March 22 | 10am – 2pm  
London | St. Thomas | Woodstock | Simcoe



Everyone  
Welcome!

**More versatility sought****Startup support call issued from businesswoman**

The city needs to offer more support for newcomers of all kinds, one businesswoman said Tuesday.

Alex Kane, 31, runs AK Arts Academy, a north London music, dance and drama studio.

Although she's originally from the U.S., she's a Canadian citizen and moved to London from the Toronto area in 2012.



Alex Kane METRO

"It has been a bit difficult," she said. "I have done a lot of networking things to try to get my toes out. I find London to be quite conservative."

Kane said medical and tech startups find city support easily, but a for-profit arts organization, like hers, faces an uphill struggle.

She's been speaking to politicians in hopes of persuading them to bring in more versatile programs.

"What I needed was startup funding," Kane said. "I needed help to develop this performing arts school."

"I know that there is money available. They give money to non-profit organizations that are well established."

"But as a new business I just haven't been able to access any funds."

Networking opportunities tend to leave her networking with other newcomers, Kane added. She said she'd love to hear from other businesspeople who want to work with her.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO



Deeq Abdi, executive director of the African Community Council, says the advocacy group will keep trying to secure city funding for staff to support African newcomers to London. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

# 'Not giving up' after city hall rejection

## Funding bid. City budget decision doesn't faze African newcomers advocacy group



MIKE DONACHIE  
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There may have been a flat "no" from city council, but one campaigning London group isn't taking no for an answer.

The African Community Council is to try again — and keep trying — to secure city funding for staff to support African newcomers to London, said Deeq Abdi, the council's execu-

tive director.

During last month's final meeting to decide the 2014 city budget, council members refused an application for \$92,968 from the African Community Council. It wanted to hire three staff to help African newcomers connect with service providers in London, helping them find jobs and get settled.

"We're not going to stop," Abdi said. "We're going to go back, back, back until something gets done."

"We're not giving up. And we're hoping new folks, new people, (after the election) will understand better next year when we're back."

During the budget discussion, city council members said

**Many services**

Deeq Abdi said a typical newcomer, with language barriers and a new culture to deal with, will be "bounced" between eight to 10 agencies before finding help with jobs, housing and other problems.

- The London area has 71 different agencies that a newcomer might use, added Abdi, executive director of the African Community Council.

they were keen to help newcomers to the city but wanted

to help everyone and not just people arriving from Africa.

But Africans face special challenges, Abdi said, so should have targeted help.

Many have come from war-zones and have psychological problems. Many arrive with "a suitcase and a passport," and no other resources.

With that \$92,000 from the city, the council could help at least 500 families a year to get settled, find work and start contributing fully to the city, Abdi said.

"It's not special treatment," he said. "This is something moral, ethical, supportive. If you have someone who is struggling more then you should help them."

## Vroom vroom. Batmobile, solar power on display at Custom Car Show

Rev up your engines.

The Speed and Custom Car Show is returning to Western Fair District this weekend, featuring everything from classic cars to those straight off your television screen.

Among the displays will be an old-school Batmobile — that's the Adam West-era one from the TV series, to be exact — and a SunStang, a solar-engineered car straight off the building blocks of Western University.

The show runs from 10

**Get yer tickets**

Tickets are \$12 in advance at [westernfairdistrict.com](http://westernfairdistrict.com) or \$15 at the door. Price is \$7.50 for students with a valid student card and free for children 10 and younger.

a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday in the Progress, West Annex and Canada buildings at the Fair District. METRO

**At-risk youth**

## YOU launching wine and dine intro course

Youth Opportunities Unlimited is going fancy, offering an introductory course to all things wine.

The five-week course starts April 2 and costs \$275 per person. Among the lessons on tap are learning how to taste wine like a professional and learning the secret of pairing wine with food.

YOU is a non-profit agency providing support, including transitional housing, for at-risk youth. METRO

## Potholes beware. City ready to spot and patch

City crews are kicking pothole patrols into high gear as they make a rosy forecast: The "worst of winter," they say, is "behind us."

Officials have said potholes are expected to be worse than usual this year because of the extreme cold that has blanketed southwestern Ontario for the past few months.

Snow that's still hanging around will melt during the day as temperatures rise, seep into the underbelly of roads and freeze at night only to thaw again the next day.

The freeze-thaw cycle weak-

ens pavement, causing it to crumble.

London road crews are asking people to report potholes on city streets by calling 519-661-4570 or emailing [es@london.ca](mailto:es@london.ca).

Priority will be given to repairing the busiest streets, but all reported potholes will be fixed as quickly as possible. The provincial standard for repairs is between four and 30 days for repair. METRO



For more local news visit [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)



# Council weathers yet another stormy debate over expenses

**Status quo.** Attempts to review or cut council expense accounts fail



**MIKE DONACHIE**  
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Uh-oh. Council has debated expenses again.

And, as expected, it was heated. For instance, “fridge magnets” were brought up.

There were two failed attempts to bring in new controls on the \$15,000 expense accounts commanded by councillors.

First, Coun. Denise Brown asked for a review, by city clerk Cathy Saunders, of the rules on expenses. She suggested limits on types of spending, which might mean a cap on the costs of “communications,” for example.

Coun. Stephen Orser said he knew exactly what Brown

was talking about.

“As we’re all aware, this was sparked because I utilized communications (funding) for fridge magnets in Ward 4,” said Orser.

He launched a fierce defence of his magnets, which bear handy phone numbers for Londoners, saying they reduce voter apathy and help people know what ward they’re in.

“Flyers go in the blue box,” he said, pointing out

that other councillors have used their communications budgets creatively for things like calendars and “robocalls.”

Several others also weighed in on the issue. Coun. Bill Armstrong, for example, said the current rules are fine and that voters can judge councillors on how they spend.

But Coun. Paul Van Meerbergen, the lowest-spending member of council, had the most controversial suggestion. He formally asked coun-

cil to support a cut in the expense accounts, taking them down to \$10,000.

“In 10 years we’ve gone up by 200 per cent in terms of our budgets,” Van Meerbergen said. “Frankly, it’s just not necessary in a 12-month period to have that amount.”

But his idea was rejected by council. So was Brown’s motion, although many said another review wasn’t needed because of Saunders’ pending report on some expense rules.

## Pay award for city workers

Mayor Joe Fontana praised the city’s outside workers as he revealed their new, modest pay award Tuesday.

- CUPE Local 107 has agreed to a 2016-2019 contract, with raises of 0, 0, 1 per cent and 1.1 per cent, plus one-time payments of \$500 and \$600.



## Rule No. 1 — never kiss and spell

An extravaganza of singing, dancing and spelling starts Friday as The Grand Theatre presents the musical The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Pictured are, from left, Kaitlin Lane, Trevor Patt and Callandra Dendias, who play some of the quirky kids battling in the contest. Patt and Dendias, along with fellow cast member Natalia Gracious (not pictured), are from London and previously took part in The Grand’s high school project. The production runs until April 12.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

## Stats show peaceful St. Paddy’s

The number of tickets issued by London police for liquor, noise and other infractions this St. Patrick’s Day plunged compared to last year.

Statistics released Tuesday show police handed out only 74 provincial offence notices — a drop of 200 from 2013. In addition, there were no criminal charges or arrests.

Both police Chief Brad Duncan and Fanshawe College student union president Adam Gourlay said they’re happy

with the results of a big student-responsibility campaign.

“We were really hoping for this result, but it’s hard to know,” Gourlay said, admitting the cold weather played a part in the tame celebrations.

“There’s 30,000 students, and it’s not like I can call them all up in one day, but I think we got the message out, students heard that message and were willing to play their part.”

Duncan said in a release that he too was “proud of our

community.”

“We worked together to set the expectations for the day, and the message of ‘having fun responsibly’ was heard,” he said.

In 2012, more than 175 criminal charges were laid in the wake of a St. Patrick’s Day riot on Fleming Drive, a neighbourhood that mostly caters to students. The charges included 13 for assaulting police and four for arson.

SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO



Police did, however, bust two keggerers near Western. SCOTT TAYLOR/METRO

## No obligations. Council to join bid for red-light cams

City council agreed Tuesday night to join a funding bid that could see red-light cameras introduced at London’s most dangerous intersections.

But a change in wording for a council motion meant they are to be “considered” instead of “approved.” That means the city isn’t committed to introducing the cameras, which staff say will cut accidents and improve safety.

Several times, city engineer John Braam was asked to confirm that London can still back out later.

But, as Coun. Harold Usher pointed out, failing to join a funding bid by several municipalities would lock London out until the year 2022.

Each camera is expected to cost \$40,000 to \$50,000, and between five and 10 would be introduced in 2017.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

## Roads. Cycling advocate backing province's proposed safety law

A London cycling advocate says legislation the provincial government is considering would make streets safer for everyone.

Gary Brown says he's all for increased fines for drivers who talk and text behind the wheel, along with penalties for those who open their car door as a cyclist is passing.

He's also in favour of dedicated bicycle lanes that go in the opposite direction of traffic on one-way streets and legislation that would require motorists to leave a space of at least one metre when passing a cyclist.

"As a cyclist, we're not often left enough space on the road," he said. "Drivers don't always know how much space to give. I think (one metre is) plenty of room."

"If you think about it, if you're riding a bike, if you can reach out and touch the car passing you, it's probably too close."



Gary Brown METRO FILE

Bike lanes on one-way streets would add a layer of protection as well.

"No one says you're not allowed to cycle the wrong way on a one-way street. What they're saying is they're allowing the city to put in a bike lane that's protected."

METRO

## Forecast. Minor flooding risk with rain, warming weather, says authority

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority is warning of the risk for minor flooding as warmer temperatures combine with rain this week.

"We don't anticipate losing the entire snowpack," said Mark Helsten, senior water resources engineer with the authority.

But, he said, "some melting will occur though, particularly along the South Thames River where there is less snow cover."

Watercourses are expected

to remain elevated into the weekend. In some areas, rivers and creeks may spill into floodplains, the authority says. Minor localized flooding may also be an issue in urban areas.

Forecasts are calling for 15 millimetres of rain through Wednesday evening with the temperature hitting 6 C on Wednesday afternoon.

Any ice remaining on waterways is unstable and dangerous, the authority says.

METRO

## Health research. Scientists strut their stuff at convention centre

The London Convention Centre was full Tuesday of what could be the hottest new research to hit the medical world.

Nearly 400 young scientists presented research on topics ranging from expedited diagnosis of multiple sclerosis to a novel treatment to improve the outcome of kidney transplants.

The presentations fell under the banner of London Health Research Day, organized annually by the Lawson Health Research Institute and Western University's Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry.

The day has grown to be the largest multidisciplinary research day in Ontario, leaders said. METRO



Canadian Olympic medallist Clara Hughes is making a stop in London this week as part of her bicycle ride across Canada to raise awareness about mental-health issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

# Big Ride proves a big inspiration

**Let's Talk.** Olympian Clara Hughes coming to town to raise awareness of mental-health issues



SCOTT TAYLOR  
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Olympic gold medallist Clara Hughes is used to erasing records. Now she's working as hard as she can to erase the stigma of mental illness.

Hughes is in the midst of riding a bicycle across Canada to encourage long-term, positive change in the way

### If you go

- Let's Talk London runs from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Western Fair District.
- Tickets are \$30 each.
- Visit [londondistresscentre.com/events/clara-big-ride](http://londondistresscentre.com/events/clara-big-ride).

communities understand and react to mental illness.

The six-time medallist will stop in London on Wednesday as the keynote speaker at the Let's Talk London event, organized and hosted by the

London and District Distress Centre.

Cheryl Legate, the centre's executive director, said the more mental illness is discussed in the open, the less the stigma will be attached to it.

"We want to keep the communication going," she said. "We want people to say, 'Yes, I live with a mental illness, I struggle with a mental illness, and I've received help and I'm trying to receive help.'"

"We don't stigmatize people with other health issues, so we're trying to alleviate that for people with mental health."

Legate said the fact that Hughes deals with depression herself gives her the legitimacy to inspire others in their own battle.

"We answer 22,000 calls a year from London-Middlesex, so we're dealing with it on a daily basis and we're supporting people right here in our region," Legate said. "It's significant to host somebody like Clara Hughes coming in and talking about her own personal experiences with mental illness."

Hughes will continue her ride Thursday, when she pedals away from the Western Fair District at about 10:30 a.m.

## Access the keys to great leadership

The secrets of strong leadership are to be presented at Fanshawe College next month.

The 2014 Refresh Leadership Simulcast on April 16 will be shown in more than 175 locations across North America, offering advice from the experts.

The simulcast features John Mackey, co-founder of Whole Foods Market, sportscaster and basketball coach Dick Vitale, and professional speaker Christine Cashen.

They will discuss what they believe makes great leaders, and share what they've learned during their

careers.

The London event, presented by Express Employment Professionals of London, opens at 8 a.m. with a networking breakfast, and the simulcast begins at 9 a.m.

Business leaders, human-resources professionals and chamber of commerce mem-

bers can register at [refreshleadership.com](http://refreshleadership.com).

The event costs \$30 per person, to cover costs, and any extra money will go to the Express Kids Cup Canada Golf Tournament, a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

METRO



# Jim Flaherty steps down as finance minister after 8 years

**'I leave feeling fulfilled.'** Flaherty is among Canada's longest-serving finance ministers

Jim Flaherty is leaving the federal cabinet after more than eight years as finance minister to prepare for a return to the private sector, saying the move is unrelated to his recent health problems.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper is expected to name his replacement Wednesday.

Flaherty, who delivered his final budget last month, said he made the decision with his family earlier this year.

"As I begin another chapter in my life, I leave feeling fulfilled with what we have accomplished as a government and a country during one of the most challenging economic periods in our country's history," he said in a statement.

An official in the Prime

Minister's Office said Flaherty would be retaining — at least for now — his seat in the House of Commons, meaning he remains an MP for the time being.

Flaherty is among Canada's longest-serving finance ministers, appointed to the key economic post when the Conservative government first came to power in 2006.

He managed the country's economy through one of its worst economic crises in 2008-2009, running up large deficits but leaving the books virtu-

ally balanced after his Feb. 11 budget.

Speculation about Flaherty's future has risen in recent years after he acknowledged suffering from a rare skin condition, requiring him to take medication that led to weight gain and apparent fatigue in public appearances.

His long farewell message to Canadians, delivered unexpectedly on a government website, listed accomplishments such as cooling the housing market and introducing tax-free sav-

ings accounts.

Harper, who has staked his government's reputation on steady economic management, said he regretted the loss of his No. 1 money man.

"In a political career of almost 20 years, minister Flaherty has exemplified the best qualities of those who enter public life: a true commitment to service, and a sincere desire to leave the country in better shape than it was when he entered politics."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Finance Minister Jim Flaherty  
FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Canadians welcome troops home from Afghanistan

MCpl. Anthony Alliot and Sarah Tooth embrace after the last Canadian troops from Afghanistan returned to Ottawa on Tuesday. The last Canadian soldiers to leave Afghanistan arrived home Tuesday to tears, hugs from family and friends and a pledge from Stephen Harper that May 9 will be set aside to honour their contributions and sacrifices. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Poll. 1 in 4 Canadian kids admit to cyberbullying

About one in four Canadian kids surveyed about cyberbullying admitted they have been "mean or cruel" to someone online, while more than one in three say they've been a victim, according to a newly released study.

But experts say cyberbullying is probably not as rampant or serious as some parents would believe.

Matthew Johnson is director of education for the non-profit organization MediaSmarts, which worked last year with schools in each province and territory to poll 5,436 students in grades 4 through 11 about online

issues.

"What we see in fact is that it is much less common and much smaller numbers of students experience significant harm," says Johnson.

Most commonly, students said the bullying act they committed was name-calling (78 per cent), while very few students owned up to more serious bad behaviour. Just 12 per cent said they made fun of someone's race or religion, seven per cent said they teased a peer about their sexual orientation, and four per cent said they sexually harassed someone.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

No more DIY

### New medical pot growing laws unconstitutional: Lawyer

A lawyer for a group of medical marijuana patients has told a Federal Court judge that stopping his clients from growing their own pot at the end of this month would violate their charter rights. Beginning next month, the government plans to allow only select commercial producers to grow marijuana for medical use, and Health Canada says anyone else growing marijuana after that is breaking the law. Growing for personal use would be illegal under the new regulations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

10 boys implicated

### Community, RCMP deal with sexting case

Community leaders and police in Terrace, B.C., have worked quickly to resolve a series of texting of sexually explicit images involving 10 boys. RCMP Const. Angela Rabut says a four-month investigation found the youths, between the ages of 12 and 16, were involved in sending or receiving the images of minor girls, and cyberbullying. Rabut says a community approach was developed to stop the sexual exploitation of youth by youth. An RCMP release says most of the boys were referred to the Terrace Community Justice Forum.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



A car burns at the scene of a helicopter crash outside the KOMO-TV studios near the Seattle Space Needle on Tuesday.

KELLY KOOPMANS/KOMO-TV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Seattle. City to revisit policy on helicopter landing pads after crash

The city of Seattle will re-examine its policy on helicopter landing pads in response to Tuesday's fatal crash at a busy downtown intersection.

Mayor Ed Murray said at a news conference hours after the wreck that Seattle's regulations on helipads changed at least 20 years ago, when the city instituted more rules and limited where helicopters could take off and land.

"In consultation with the council, we will decide if we need to adjust our policies," he said.

The crash Tuesday morning happened as a news helicopter took off from a helipad at the KOMO-TV station. The chopper went down on a street near the Space Needle and exploded into flames, hitting three vehicles and setting them on fire.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Vladimir Putin welcomes Crimea back into the fold

**Annexation.** Russian president dismisses criticism, blasting the West as hypocrites and Ukraine as run by radical nationalists

With a sweep of his pen, President Vladimir Putin added Crimea to the map of Russia on Tuesday, describing the move as correcting a past injustice and responding to what he called Western encroachment upon Russia's vital interests.

While his actions were met with cheers in Crimea and Russia, Ukraine's new government called Putin a threat to the whole world and U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden warned that the U.S. and Europe will impose further sanctions against Moscow.

"The world has seen through Russia's actions and has rejected the flawed logic," Biden said as he met with European leaders in Poland.

In an emotional 40-minute speech televised live from the Kremlin, Putin said he was merely restoring order to history by incorporating Crimea.

"In people's hearts and minds, Crimea has always been an integral part of Russia," he declared, dismissing Western criticism of Sunday's Crimean referendum as a manifestation of the West's double standards.

Often interrupted by applause, Putin said the rights of ethnic Russians in Ukraine had been abused by the new Ukrainian government and insisted that Crimea's vote to join Russia was in line with international law and reflected its right for self-determination.

Putin said his actions fol-



Thousands of pro-Russian people watch a live broadcast of Russian President Vladimir Putin's speech on Crimea in Sevastopol, Crimea, Tuesday. Fiercely defending Russia's move to annex Crimea, Putin said Russia had to respond to what he described as a plot by the West to take Ukraine into its influence. VADIM GHIRDA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Quoted

**"I have heard residents of Crimea say that back in 1991 they were handed over like a sack of potatoes."**

Russian President Vladimir Putin, who declared that the collapse of the Soviet Union made Russians "the largest divided people in the world."

lowed what he described as Western arrogance, hypocrisy and pressure, and warned that the West must drop its stubborn refusal to take Russian concerns into account.

"If you push a spring too

hard at some point it will spring back," he said, addressing the West. "You always need to remember this."

While Putin boasted that the Russian takeover of Crimea was conducted without a sin-

gle shot, a Ukrainian military spokesman said one Ukrainian serviceman was killed and another injured when a military facility in Crimea was stormed Tuesday by armed men just hours after Putin's speech.

Putin argued that the months of protests in the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv which prompted President Viktor Yanukovich to flee to Russia had been instigated by the West to weaken Russia. He cast the new Ukrainian government as illegitimate, driven by rad-

ical "nationalists, neo-Nazis, Russophobes and anti-Semites."

In response, Ukraine's new government called Putin dangerous.

"Today's statement by Putin showed in high relief what a real threat Russia is for the civilized world and international security," Ukrainian foreign ministry spokesman Evhen Perebinis said on Twitter. "(The annexation) has nothing to do with law or with democracy or sensible thinking."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## The view from home

### Canadian sanctions won't isolate Russia, says ambassador

Russia's ambassador to Canada says sanctions from the West over Ukraine won't isolate his country, and expelling it from the G8 would only hurt stability around the world.

Energy-thirsty Asian countries such as China are waiting in the wings if Europe and North America decide they won't want Russia's resources, Georgiy Mamedov said Tuesday.

"Look at the map," he said. "Half of Russia is in Asia. So even if — and I don't think that western countries are, you know, adventurous or crazy enough to shoot themselves in the leg and to undercut mutually beneficial energy and other relationship with Russia — but even if they did, the longest border in the world that we have is with China, not with Belgium and not with Canada, unfortunately."

Canada joined other countries in imposing sanctions on Russia as a result of Sunday's vote in Crimea, but Mamedov shrugged off the sanctions. "I've been around and you can't isolate Russia," he said.

There was some confusion Tuesday over whether Russia would be suspended from the Group of Eight leading industrial countries.

France's Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius told a European radio station that G8 leaders had "decided to suspend Russia's participation." Britain's Foreign Office, meanwhile, said that Russia is still part of the G8, but did not rule out a suspension. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Serbia

### Suspected drug kingpin arrested

Darko Saric, the most wanted suspected drug lord in the Balkans, was arrested Tuesday after surrendering to Serbian authorities, government officials said.

Saric has been on the run since 2009 when a shipment of cocaine he allegedly organized was disrupted near the Uruguayan coast. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Africa

### Hundreds of migrants storm Spanish enclave

Some 500 stone-throwing migrants from sub-Saharan Africa forced their way into the Spanish enclave of Melilla from Morocco on Tuesday in one of the biggest illegal border-crossings of recent years, Spanish and Moroccan officials said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Germany

### Authorities arrest elderly former Auschwitz guard

German authorities have arrested a 93-year-old man on suspicion of "multiple counts" of accessory to murder while he was a SS guard in the Auschwitz death in September 1944 — a time when prosecutors say more than 1,700 people were sent to the camp's gas chambers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## 'Swithering' Scots have power to break up U.K.

Scotland's swithering "middle million" has Britain's future in its hands.

"Swithering" means wavering, and it's a word you hear a lot in Scotland right now. Six months from now, Scottish voters must decide whether their country should become independent, breaking up Great Britain as it has existed for 300

years.

Faced with the choice, many find their hearts say "aye" but their heads say "why risk it?" Polls suggest as many as a quarter of Scotland's 4 million voters remain undecided, and their choices will determine the outcome.

Many long to cut the ties binding them to England, but

fear the risks — and the financial fallout.

The two countries united in 1707 to form Great Britain, with a shared monarch, currency, and a London-based government.

It has always been a lopsided relationship — England's population is 10 times Scotland's 5.3 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# Thai military reports 10-day-old radar blips that could be missing plane

**MH370.** Thai air force didn't pay attention to the signal initially and said Malaysia's initial request for info wasn't specific enough

Investigators trying to solve the mystery of a missing Malaysian jetliner received some belated help Tuesday from Thailand, whose military said it took 10 days to report radar blips that might have been the plane "because we did not pay attention to it."

A coalition of 26 countries, including Thailand, is looking for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, which vanished March 8 with 239 people aboard on a night flight from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing. Search crews are scouring two giant arcs of territory amounting to the size of Australia — half of it in the remote seas of the southern Indian Ocean.

Malaysian officials said early in the search that they suspected the plane backtracked and



A young Malaysian boy prays for the missing plane at an event at a Malaysian shopping mall on Tuesday. JOSHUA PAUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

flew toward the Strait of Malacca, just west of Malaysia. But it took a week for them to confirm Malaysian military radar data that suggested that route. On Tuesday, Thai military officials said their own radar showed an unidentified plane, possibly Flight 370, flying toward the strait beginning minutes after the Malaysian jet's transponder signal was lost.

Air force spokesman Air Vice Marshal Montol Suchokorn said the Thai military doesn't know whether the plane it detected was Flight 370.

Thailand's failure to quickly share possible information about the plane may not substantially change what Malaysian officials now know, but it raises questions about the de-

gree to which some countries are sharing their defence data.

Flight 370 took off from Kuala Lumpur at 12:40 a.m. Malaysian time March 8 and its transponder, which allows air traffic controllers to identify and track the airplane, ceased communicating at 1:20 a.m.

Montol said that at 1:28 a.m., Thai military radar detected an abnormal signal of a

plane flying back toward Kuala Lumpur.

When asked why it took so long to release the information, Montol said, "Because we did not pay any attention to it. The Royal Thai Air Force only looks after any threats against our country."

He said the plane never entered Thai airspace.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Mystery

### But how do you lose an airplane?

Flight 370 must be somewhere. But the same can be said for Amelia Earhart's plane.

So what if the airplane is never found?

While rare nowadays, history is not short of such mysteries — from the most famous of all, American aviator Earhart, to planes and ships disappearing in the so-called Bermuda Triangle.

"When something like this happens that confounds us, we're offended by it, and we're scared by it," said Ric Gillespie, a former U.S. aviation accident investigator.

"We had the illusion of control and it's just been shown to us that ... a really big airliner can just vanish."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Egypt. Leader says he'll 'spare no effort' to resolve jailed journalist's case

In a rare gesture, Egypt's interim president has written to the family of an Australian journalist who is being tried on terrorism charges alongside an Egyptian-Canadian and other employees of satellite broadcaster Al-Jazeera.

Adly Mansour has told Peter Greste's family that he will push to expedite the case against the Australian reporter.

"I would like to assure you in my capacity as president of Egypt, that I will spare no effort to work towards the speedy resolution of the case, in a fashion consistent with the law and that guarantees the reunion of the family in the near future," Mansour wrote in the letter, seen by The Associated Press on Tuesday. It's unclear if the letter directly mentions Egyptian-Canadian Mohamed Fahmy or Egyptian Baher Mohamed, who were arrested along with Greste on Dec. 29 in Cairo.

The three journalists are accused of endangering national security and aiding a terrorist organization along with 17

### Mohamed Fahmy

- Fahmy moved to Canada in 1991 and lived in Montreal and Vancouver before moving abroad covering stories for The New York Times and CNN.
- The Department of Foreign Affairs has said senior Canadian officials have raised Fahmy's case with Egyptian authorities and have requested a fair and expeditious trial.

others.

Authorities accuse Al-Jazeera of being a platform for ousted Islamist president Mohammed Morsi's supporters and his Muslim Brotherhood group. The network denies that and says the journalists were just doing their jobs. Greste, Fahmy and Mohamed pleaded not guilty to their charges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Pistorius trial. Pics prove cops bungled investigation, defence lawyer claims

South African police photographs of the blood-spattered scene where Oscar Pistorius shot dead his girlfriend show that evidence was moved around in violation of procedure during the investigation of the killing, the athlete's chief defence lawyer said Tuesday.

Lawyer Barry Roux has challenged previous police witnesses, seeking to uncover contradictions and reported mishaps to support his argument that officers bungled the investigation, an allegation made by Pistorius at the start of the trial when he

pleaded not guilty to murder in Reeva Steenkamp's Feb. 14, 2013 killing.

On Tuesday, Roux minutely examined many photos taken by Bennie van Staden and another police officer and pointed out that objects at the crime scene had been moved and were in different positions in photos. Roux also used time of day records on the images to show that the two policemen taking photographs were in the same room at points, even though van Staden testified he was working alone. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Oscar Pistorius holds his head in his hands in the dock during cross examination of a witness on Tuesday. BRENDAN CROFT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Stable condition

#### Girl bitten by shark in Australia

A 10-year-old girl was attacked by a shark off Australia's east coast and suffered a serious injury to her hand, officials said Tuesday.

Paramedics treated the girl at the scene and took her to a local hospital. She was in stable condition Tuesday evening.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Terrorism trial

#### 9/11 'architect' not allowed to testify

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the self-described architect of 9/11, will not be allowed to testify in the terrorism trial of Osama bin Laden's son-in-law, a federal judge in New York ruled Tuesday.

The judge said Mohammed's testimony would be irrelevant because there was no evidence that Mohammed and Sulaiman Abu Ghaith had ever met.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Haiti

#### Drought causes emergency

A Haitian official says drought is causing an "extreme emergency" in the country's northeast.

Pierre Gary Mathieu said that the eight-month-long drought in the region has destroyed bean, plantain, and corn crops, as well as livestock and it will take the area six months to recover.

Government officials plan to distribute seeds to farmers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Abu Ghraib prison

#### Iraqi detainees' lawsuit should be reinstated: Lawyer

Four former Iraqi detainees who say they were tortured at the Abu Ghraib prison should be allowed to pursue their claims against CACI Premier Technology Inc., the U.S. military contractor in charge of interrogating them, an attorney told a federal appeals court Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Fan-made content is music to record executives' ears

**YouTube.** User uploads earning music biz more dough than official videos

The recording industry is making more money from fan-made mashups, lip-synchs and tributes on YouTube than from official music videos.

"It's a massive growth area. We're very excited about the creativity of consumers using our repertoire and creating their own versions of our videos," said Francis Keeling, the global head of digital business for Universal Music Group.

With one billion users worldwide, YouTube is the most used music service in the world, according to the annual Music Report released Tues-

## Hitting the right notes

New revenue streams are good news for the music industry, which saw a global decline in revenues of 3.9% in 2013 to about \$15 billion US.

day by IFPI, an organization that represents 1,300 record companies around the world.

"All record companies make their repertoire available to YouTube," Keeling explained.

The video website, owned by Google, alerts record companies when a YouTube user uploads content that uses a copyrighted song.

Rather than order the video removed for copyright infringement, the record company can instead choose to

run ads before and during the video, making money off the video's views.

For example, a video of American comedian Steve Kardynal wearing a bikini and lip-synching Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe for unsuspecting viewers on Chatroulette racked up more than 14 million views, which earned ad dollars for the record label behind Jepsen's hit single.

User-generated content is actually generating more money for record labels than the official music videos posted by record labels, Keeling said.

"A lot of that is due to consumers putting more and more repertoire and new versions up there, but also it's YouTube getting better at advertising," he said.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

NEWARK Liberty	JetBlue	518	11:43a	C40	Cancelled
NEWARK Liberty	United	1199	9:47a		Cancelled
NEWARK Liberty	JetBlue	2280	10:04a	C25	Cancelled
ORLANDO INTL	United	1685	11:12a	C17	Now 10:56a
ORLANDO INTL	JetBlue	550	10:11a	C31	Arrived
PHILADELPHIA	JetBlue	1450	12:54p	C34	Delayed
PHILADELPHIA	JetBlue	1776	9:54a	C30	Cancelled
PITTSBURGH	JetBlue	160	11:43a	C32	Cancelled
PITTSBURGH	JetBlue	1286	10:27a	C11	Cancelled
PITTSBURGH	JetBlue	1486	12:38p	C29	Cancelled

## The winter of flyers' discontent

A flight board shows JetBlue cancellations at Logan International Airport on Jan. 7 in Boston, a day after the airline cancelled nearly all operations into Logan because of bad weather. It was that kind of month for JetBlue, and it was that kind of month for all U.S. airlines, which posted one of their worst January on-time performances ever, as winter storms pounded parts of the country. One-third of all flights arrived late, the rate of cancelled flights was the second-highest ever, and reports of mishandled bags soared. **STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS; PHOTO: DARREN MCCOLLESTER/GETTY IMAGES**

## Market Minute



**DOLLAR**  
89.79¢  
(-0.68¢)

**Natural gas:** \$4.47 US (-\$0.05)  
**Dow Jones:** 16,336.19 (+88.97)



**TSX**  
14,368.97 (+137.08)



**OIL**  
\$99.70 US (+\$1.62)



**GOLD**  
\$1,359 US (-\$13.90)

## Canadian report

### 41.1% of small businesses use url

A new study says fewer than half of Canada's small businesses have an online presence and may be losing sales opportunities. Overall, it found that 45.5 per cent of Canadian businesses are online. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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# AND THE MOST FAMOUS CANADIAN IS...

Quick! Who's the most famous Canadian in the world?

Chris Hadfield, the singing astronaut?

Christopher Plummer, the Oscar-winning actor?

Wayne Gretzky, the Great One?

Nope, it's Avril Lavigne, that's who.

That's if you believe an MIT research project called Pantheon that combed through online references to anyone between 4,000 BC and 2010 who has a Wikipedia reference in more than 25 languages.

It's bad enough that MIT has anointed a pop has-been in the waning stages of her career as the most famous Canadian ever, but our credulity is strained to the breaking point as it goes down the list.

The second most famous Canadian is Jim Carrey? Jim Carrey hasn't had a hit since the '90s and his most recent effort is *Dumb and Dumber To*.

The outrage continues: Justin Bieber is number three,



**JUST SAYIN'**  
**Paul Sullivan**  
metronews.ca

which makes sense because he's Canadian Bad Boy Number One, right up there with Rob Ford. Number four is Celine Dion, who's certainly famous in Vegas, but number five is Pamela Anderson, who was famous for doing nothing long ago, before she was supplanted by Kim Kardashian.

As statistically sound as it appears to be, the process is obviously flawed. Garbage in, garbage out. What can you expect from research that would have us believe that the world's most famous actor is Molière? (Thousands of commuters call up Molière on their devices, only to discover a 17th century French playwright. Shakespeare would have something to say about that, in iambic pent-

ameter, no less.)

You have to wonder what Avril Lavigne is thinking, as she lounges by the pool out there somewhere in pop-tart land with her arguably more famous husband Chad Kroeger, lead singer for Nickelback. "Like, Chad, I told you I was more

famous than you are. In fact, I'm more famous than Pamela Anderson."

I really don't think MIT should be encouraging this sort of thing.

Chad, by the way, did not make the list even though he's the front man for Billboard's top rock group of the 2000s.

The rest of the top 25 list continues to undermine the credibility of the MIT findings. Either that, or I don't get out enough these days. Somebody named Chris Benoit is the 12th most famous Canadian in the world, more famous than Avatar director James Cameron (14) and Marshall McLuhan (17) the man who said "The medium is the message." Boy, was he right on. Just not as famous as Avril Lavigne or Chris Benoit, whoever he is.

It may be this list is telling the truth, and in the words of that famous American Jack Nicholson, we can't handle the truth. So, like most people who don't like what they hear, I propose to ignore all this ... data, and go on thinking that Glenn Gould, the world's greatest pianist (19), is more famous, and deservedly so, than some guy named Chris Benoit.

## ZOOM

# Birds of a spider flock together

## Spider's display is courtship dance

This male spider tries to attract a female by showing off its colours — just like a peacock. The maratus, also known as the peacock spider, flaunts its stunning blue, red and green flaps to catch the eye of a female. The spider, one of 43 species of maratus, was found by biologist Jurgen Otto near Esperance, Western Australia. **METRO**

### Quoted

"The males do not discriminate between the females of different species and will display their bright bodies to females that belong to other species." Jurgen Otto

## Arachnid gives bird's-eye view

This species of peacock spider, the maratus avibus, really does look like a feathered creature.

"The design on the spider's abdomen looks like two birds facing each other — which made experts choose the name 'avibus', meaning 'birds' in Latin," says Otto.

**METRO**



JURGEN OTTO /SOLENT NEWS

### Clickbait



**HANNAH ZITNER**  
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

It's that time of year again: the dreaded tax season. With a few weeks to go to file, might as well check it off the to-do list now. You can shell out and get your accountant to take care of it, or stay home, brew a cup of coffee and get it done yourself. Here are a few CRA Netfile-certified online/mobile options to (hopefully) take some of the pain away.



ISTOCKIMAGES

### SimpleTax:

Relatively new to the tax-filing game, this unique pay-what-you-want model lets users decide how much — if anything — they want to pay.

### SnapTax:

Yes, that 'snap' does refer to snapping a pic. Take a photo (iPhone or iPad only) of your T4, fill out a quick (they say) form on your iDevice and voilà. Though, it doesn't work for those with offspring or other dependants — you'll

need to use their parent company, TurboTax, for that.

### UFile:

UFile is free if you're a tax newbie, student or make less than \$20K or have a very simple return (one single T4 and no other fancy account). Filing individual returns start at \$16 and lets you add a spouse for \$10.

For a full list of Netfile-certified software, programs and apps, go to [netfile.gc.ca](http://netfile.gc.ca)

### Twitter

@metropicks asked: Governments and private companies have their sights on mining the moon. Do you think it's a good idea?

@chiefwrongwolf: why does this need science? mime?? besides this is the Owrst game of charades I have EVER played let me tell you

@Machzy: Agent Smith said it best -

humans are a virus - we move to an area and multiply until every natural resource is consumed. Looks like the moon is next!

@tolitojohnson: at least on the moon we won't be destroying our own home and there will be a plentiful supply of resource. It's a win/win.

**Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.**

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU:

Send us your comments: [londonletters@metronews.ca](mailto:londonletters@metronews.ca)

# Filmmaker explores teen genre in *Beyond Clueless*

**SXSW.** Documentary examines teen movies from more than 200 not-quite classics



**NED  
EHRBAR**

Metro World News in Hollywood

First-time filmmaker Charlie Lyne came to SXSW to premiere *Beyond Clueless*, his exploration of teen movies. Less a traditional, talking heads doc than a lyrical, fluid examination of the genre, Lyne gives the scholarly and artistic treatment to a class of films usually excluded from such pursuits, with narration by Fairuza Balk and visuals from more than 200 teen not-quite classics.

## How has it been, bringing your first film to SXSW?

What's nice is it feels like we're repeating the experience of doing the Kickstarter now because it's going out to a load of people who have no idea who any of us are but have some bearing on this subject matter. ... Everyone has that film that they grew up watching and obsessing over, and usually it's a film that is quite singular to them.

## So is *Clueless* that movie for you?

*Clueless* is a film I completely love and certainly growing up it was one of my five or 10 that I would go back to again and again and again, but ac-

tually the ones I always found more fascinating were the ones that, for lack of a better word, aren't quite as good as *Clueless*.

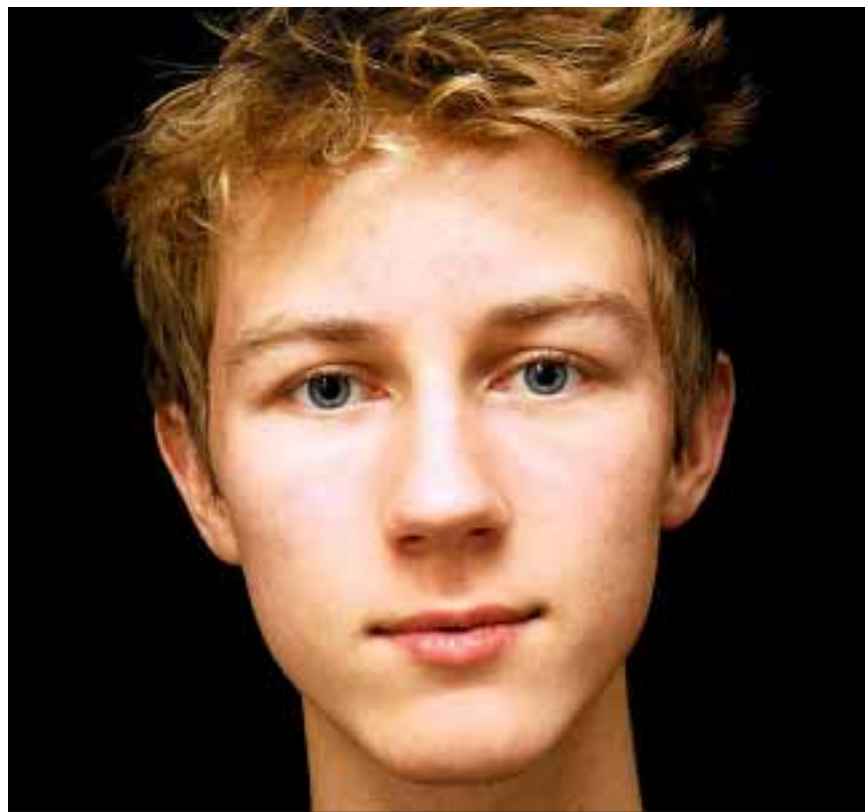
The teen genre for me is most fascinating when it doesn't quite work, you know? There's plenty of teen movies that I think are unequivocally brilliant — wouldn't change a thing, perfect movies — stuff like *Clueless*, stuff like *Cruel Intentions*, that just really work and know themselves.

But the teen movies that I find fascinating are the ones that aren't quite there, that have so much buried beneath the skin but don't quite know what they are. There's so much more going on that even the film itself isn't really aware of — which perfectly mirrors the experience of being a teenager.

## So a film with an identity crisis?

Exactly. So many of them seem to have these palpable identity crises going on inside them. Something like *Idle Hands*. A film about a teenage boy who has an attractive girl move in next door and suddenly finds that he can't control his right hand — it doesn't seem like a stretch to say that's a metaphor for something. And yet you look back at the way people talked about it when it first came out and there's nothing about that. It's all just, "Devon Sawa is reasonably OK in this mid-dling horror vehicle."

## The teen market is also one



First-time filmmaker Charlie Lyne brings his exploration of teen movies to SXSW in *Beyond Clueless*. CONTRIBUTED

## that never really goes away in Hollywood.

Surely it's the one film genre that openly states who it's for in its very title. I love that about it, I think there's something really interesting about films that are explicitly marketed toward the most malleable, impressionable

group. And why wouldn't they be the most fascinating to talk about when they have so much power over people?

I think everyone would be willing to admit that they were in at least some way shaped by the films that they saw at that age. That was what was brilliant and terrifying about doing this

film, was watching all these films that I unthinkingly took on at 13 and going, "Oh God, what awful lessons was I learning? What was I accepting about myself on the basis of this film?" So it's been good therapy. I'm now a functional human being after going through my teen movie demons.

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Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis  
GETTY IMAGES

## Lovebirds despised each other on 'That '70s Show

Ashton Kutcher and Mila Kunis are set to tie the knot and seem ridiculously happy together, and no one is more surprised than their former 'That '70s Show' colleagues.

"Everyone shakes their head over the romance," a source says, explaining that the pair "despised each other" while making the hit sitcom, according to Radar Online. "Ashton and Mila were absolutely not friends during much of the making of 'That '70s Show'. In fact, they couldn't stand working together."

That all changed, apparently, after Kutcher's very public split from ex-wife Demi Moore. "Mila was the one who came forward to bury the hatchet," the source explains. "Everyone's amazed at how different Ashton and Mila are together from when they were younger. It's such a total change."

## Kanye sentenced over run-in

Kanye West has been sentenced to two years of probation and 240 hours of community service after pleading no contest to a battery charge stemming from his run-in with a paparazzo last July, according to TMZ.

The rapper must also complete 24 anger management sessions and turn himself in to the LAPD for formal booking. Last summer, West got into a scrape with photographer Daniel Ramos outside the LAX airport. "Without warning or provocation, Mr. West suddenly attacked Daniel, punching him and attempting to wrestle Daniel's camera from his hands," Ramos' attorney, Gloria Allred, recounted in a statement. Reps from West's camp had no comment.

# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

### The Word



## Courtney Love finds missing airplane, according to Courtney Love

MELINDA TAUB  
Metro World News

Courtney Love is about as stable as Los Angeles was at 6:25 a.m. on Monday. If given the choice, I would not elect Courtney to the position of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 Finder-In-Chief — for that, I'd probably go with an international team of aviation experts.

However, the international team of aviation experts haven't turned up much, have they? Every day they widen the search area so much that I presume

we'll soon be looking on the moon. Courtney Love, on the other hand, believes she knows exactly where it is, so maybe we ought to give her a shot.

"I'm no expert but up close this does look like a plane and an oil slick," she tweeted, with a link to a satellite photo showing an empty-looking stretch of ocean.

Love then tweeted that the location was "like a mile away Pulau Perak, where they 'last' tracked it." She also added some childish-looking scrawls over the photo pointing to where she thinks the plane and oil are.

I really don't know what I'll do with myself if it turns out she's right. Then again, Courtney Love Finding Missing People All Around the World Through the Power of MS Paint is definitely a TV show I'd watch.

## Eerie posts appear on L'Wren's social media accounts

Designer L'Wren Scott's sudden death Monday was made even more shocking when her social media accounts continued posting several hours after she died.

Because of previously scheduled posts or a PR team that wasn't yet aware of her passing, several Facebook posts and tweets appeared after her death was announced, confusing her followers.

Perhaps the eeriest image was a photo of several of Scott's designs hung from a tree and apparently lit from within, which appeared on the designer's Facebook just hours after her death was announced. A strange, ghostly image indeed, after the designer's apparent suicide.

Her Twitter account also remained active, leaving some fans unsure of whether her death was a hoax or not. Fashion blogger Bryan Boy shared a befuddled screenshot and tweeted, "But Lwren tweeted 3 hours ago???"

Scott was Mick Jagger's longtime girlfriend, and The Rolling Stones said Tuesday



L'Wren Scott THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

they have called off tour dates in Australia and New Zealand in the wake of her death.

The iconic band said in a statement they "are deeply sorry and disappointed to

announce the postponement of the rest of their 14 ON FIRE tour." Band members thanked fans "for their support at this difficult time." WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**For more information contact:**  
Louise Hollingsworth  
louise@reforestlondon.ca  
519-936-9548 x226  
reforestlondon.ca



There's liquid gold hidden in California wine country, part of an olive oil boom in recent years. You can tour an orchard, learn what extra-virgin olive oil really means and taste your way through lemon-, herb- and even chocolate-infused olive oils. Harvest is usually around the end of the year, but any time is good for a visit.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## Round Pond Estate

A family-run winery whose owners branched out into olives some years ago, this Rutherford, Calif., estate produces four gourmet olive oils and has an onsite olive mill. If you're pressed for time you can do the Splash and Dash tasting, enjoying olive oils and the estate's red wine vinegars. Visit [roundpond.com/olive-mill](http://roundpond.com/olive-mill) for more.

# 5 olive oil trail 'pit' stops



SCREEN GRAB/LONGMEADOWRANCH.COM

## Long Meadow Ranch

Tailor your visit to be long or short, depending on your inclination. Stop by the winery tasting room in St. Helena to enjoy an olive oil tasting, no appointment needed. For a more in-depth look, visit the winery's Mayacamas Estate. You'll explore the grounds, see the vineyards and visit the oldest olive orchard in Napa County, planted in the 1870s. See [longmeadowranch.com](http://longmeadowranch.com).

## McEvoy Ranch



ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

McEvoy Ranch started when Nan McEvoy, part of the family that founded the San Francisco Chronicle, was looking for a place in the country. She settled on 550 acres in Marin County. Inspired by her love of Tuscan olive oil, she worked with Italian expert Maurizio Castelli to create what is now a thriving business. The

ranch is open only at certain times of the year, so you'll need to plan your visit. See [mcevoyranch.com](http://mcevoyranch.com).



ERIC RISBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

## The Olive Press

The Olive Press offers a tour of its mill in Sonoma where you can learn about how the oil is made, get tips on how to taste oil like a professional and browse the large store. Tour reservations are required at least a week in advance, and cost varies from free to \$20 per person depending on activities selected. See [theolivepress.com](http://theolivepress.com).

## Lucero

Walk into the downtown Napa tasting room of Lucero Olive Oil and you know you're in for some serious tasting. The walls are lined with bottles of olive oil including several infused oils that range from zippy Meyer lemon to a chocolate-infused oil that is delicious on ice cream. Lucero also produces a range of balsamic vinegars, table olives, tapenades and mustards which are available for tasting. See [lucerooliveoil.com](http://lucerooliveoil.com).



SCREEN GRAB/LUCEROOLIVEOIL.COM

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# Frenchie chef transforms tiny Parisian side street into his culinary kingdom

**Rue du Nil.** Greg Marchand is shaking up the block with his bistro-inspired venture

Food nourishes the tiny Rue du Nil from the dim light of morning when the first deliveries start going out to Paris' most sought-after restaurants — until well after midnight, when the young chef who transformed an unchic side street into a culinary destination finally closes up.

In the meantime, sides of beef age in transparent lockers, pastrami is smoked, root vegetables are fondled, and visitors from around the world poke around in the (usually vain) hope that a reservation might open up at Frenchie, the restaurant that started it all.

The first meal Greg Marchand cooked for a crowd was veal in cream sauce — and the dozen or so orphans he shared a home with ate it up. He was subbing for the orphanage cook, who took weekends off. An indifferent student, he enrolled in cooking school after his time in the orphanage ran out at age 17.

"I wasn't the best of the bunch. I had other things to sort out in my life first," he said in a recent interview. "As soon as I finished cooking school, I left France. I wasn't tied to

France much."

Marchand's subsequent meandering path — hotel restaurants in London and Hong Kong, a beachside bar in Spain, Jamie Oliver's kitchen, New York's Gramercy Tavern — put him at the crest of bistronomie, the French movement combining highbrow gastronomy and the lowly corner bistro. He returned to France in 2009, just coming into his 30s and into his own as a chef.

The centre of haute cuisine, Paris has been a relative late-comer to the idea of fresh food with local ingredients at prices more for the masses. Marchand, who had by then spent his professional life abroad, was unwittingly ready.

"A lot of young chefs — I'm part of it — open a restaurant with no investor, so with not much money. It's often small places, with no designer work because they cannot afford it. But what we have is a craft, knowledge, experience," he said. "It's often chefs who have been travelling a lot. We have a French base, French cuisine basis, but because of our travel we are much more open-minded on ingredients, on culture, on techniques."

For 48 euros (\$75), diners get a three-course meal at Frenchie — Oliver's nickname for Marchand back when he was the only Frenchman in the British chef's kitchen. It's not cheap, but neither is it especially ex-



Pedestrians walk past chef Greg Marchand's restaurant Frenchie in Paris. MICHEL EULER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

pensive in a city where tourists expecting the world's finest cuisine instead routinely get fleeced in brasseries charging far more for factory-produced meals that are discreetly unwrapped and thawed in the kitchen.

They'll see Marchand peeking out obsessively, serving up some plates himself and unfailingly checking in with customers and mysteriously keeping tabs on comings and goings in

the wine bar he runs across the cobblestoned street.

There's nothing fancy about it: the restaurant seats about 30, plates are simple white, and menus come on clipboards. Jeans and sneakers are welcome for staff and customers alike.

And, to be honest, there are not a lot of French voices on the street or inside once the sun goes down. Staff come from all over, and include a smattering

of Canadians and Americans. Marchand cheerfully — and frequently — speaks English.

But a visit to Rue du Nil is still worth the trip even for those who can't snag a reservation.

"It has become one of the destinations for shopping and snacking and begging for reservations in the city, which was certainly not the case before he got there five years ago," said Meg Zimbeck, a transplanted

## New book

Aspiring chefs can also check out Marchand's techniques in his cookbook, which goes on sale in English in March.

- It's a radically pared down version of what's on offer in the restaurant, which puts out some truly spectacular dishes in a home-sized kitchen crammed with sous chefs, specialized equipment and ingredients only seen on Rue du Nil.

Kansan whose website Paris By Mouth is aimed at food-loving visitors to Paris. "He wants to change the way people shop for food, experience food. Not just turn a massive profit."

And Marchand's influence is spreading. When he mentioned an opening on the street, Alexandre Drouard, a 30-year-old whose Terroir d'Avenir supplies Frenchie and dozens of the most sought-after restaurants in Paris, moved in and opened a butcher, a fish shop and a small grocery store. A coffee roaster recently went in, too. Marchand himself expanded to a wine bar (no reservations) and an American-style breakfast and lunch joint whose menu includes pastrami sandwiches, bagels and sticky buns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# Shopping around for a new gig?

**You've got this job in the bag.** A career in retail is an easy sell once you consider the opportunities in store

ELIAS  
DA SILVA-POWELL  
TalentEgg.ca

Planning on landing your first job in retail?

There are a number of different qualities that make retail a promising field, whether you're taking your first career step or planning for a career transition. Identifying some of the great qualities of working in retail can help you create a long-term plan for your career.

Here are three reasons retail is a great career field, as well as some tips to help you plan your next move.

## There is variety and growth potential

Since some of the most visible



Many opportunities branch outwards from entry-level positions on the retail floor, because these roles are hands-on learning experiences and provide plenty of opportunity to demonstrate skills and potential. ISTOCK

jobs in retail involve working directly with the public in a retail store, it's easy to be tricked into thinking that "retail" is just a type or level of job.

Remember this: retail is an industry.

This means that all sorts

of career opportunities are present for a candidate with the right background who is willing to invest some time learning from the ground up.

"Too often, students forget that many senior executives started from the ground level of

their organizations and worked their way up," says Devon Blower, a recruitment specialist with Bell.

It's increasingly common for entry-level retail applicants to have long-term career plans with an organization — and to share those plans as part of an application or interview process.

"There are lots of candidates all trying to get into this organization and this industry," says Devon. "We have lots of opportunity."

**Tip:** What roles do you want to explore at your prospective employer in the long-term? Why? Answering these questions will help you plan your search more effectively.

## You can pursue your interests — or discover new ones

Since retail is an industry, there are a lot of opportunity for to pursue a personal passion at

## You don't learn by looking

Many people experience their first role in retail as a part-time or summer job and leave convinced that "working in retail" means never moving beyond that first role, never learning or growing (or earning more money).

- In reality, every career path presents opportunities to learn, grow and develop transferable skills.

- Store manager Mandy Utton knows. While her years of retail experience at Starbucks have taught her a lot about company routines and products, she focuses on one of the most important skills she puts to work every day.

- "The most important thing I've learned is how to lead," she says. "My job is managing a store, but it is leadership that inspires a team."

- Part of any learning experience is recognizing that you don't know — so don't make assumptions about a job until you've had a chance to experience it first-hand (for months, not days).

**Tip:** Do your research. See if you can connect with people in your prospective retail position and learn more about the job and industry. This is networking — you'll be doing it for your whole career.

work, or even discover a new one. That's what happened to Maya Bielinski, who went to work at her family's jewelry store with trepidation.

"My parents had always worked in the business, and I was pretty sure I wanted nothing to do with it," she says. "I didn't know anything about metalsmithing or jewelry design or gemstones — and at the time I didn't even want to learn!"

That changed pretty quickly, when she found an old book about precious stones one day while on break.

"I guess I needed to see it all from a different angle. I never considered the geography or geology or chemical "composition of gemstones," Maya says. "But this little book had me hooked. I was fascinated by all this new knowledge."

The more she learned, the more she found herself engaging at the store — even fashioning trinkets of her own and connecting with customers who expressed interest. Soon, she found herself with a new hobby.

"I was surrounded by all these incredible objects and by people who really valued the artistry and skill that went into creating them. Jewelry wasn't just shiny ornaments anymore — I started seeing it as sculpture, sometimes showcasing amazing geology."

While she's moved on to pursue a law degree, she credits her first employment experience in retail with helping her start building skills she's put to work since.

"If you can find a thread of interest in whatever work you're doing, pursue it. Curiosity and dedication will serve you well whatever job you're working."

**Tip:** Got a hobby, talent or interest? See if that self-taught background positions you for a corresponding type of retail role. Your employer will probably appreciate your product knowledge.

Just about every job listing sparks fierce competition, and retail is no exception.

You won't land your first job in retail unless you're ready to consistently challenge yourself to grow and expand your knowledge. Count on it.

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# Sneak extra fibre and protein into a Chinese food favourite

## Chicken Fried Rice.

With the addition of chickpeas, this dish takes on a healthier profile that is sure to become a family fave



**DINNER EXPRESS**  
Emily Richards  
food@metronews.ca

One my grandmother's favourite things to eat is Chinese food.

I'm not sure if it's the colourful sauces or the strong differences in flavours from her mother country's Italian food but she sure does enjoy it.

So, at her 85 years of age, I like to make food for her that is hearty and healthy. Here is a version of chicken fried rice that fits the bill.

### Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) sodium reduced chicken broth
- 3/4 cup (175 ml) brown rice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) sesame oil
- 2 boneless skinless chicken breasts, chopped (about 12 oz/340 g)
- 1 cup (250 ml) sliced mushrooms
- 2 green onions, chopped
- 1 carrot, diced
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) sliced celery
- 1 cup (250 ml) cooked chickpeas
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) sodium reduced soy sauce
- 2 cups (500 ml) bean sprouts

### Cooking tips

- Vegetarian Fried Rice option: Use vegetable broth for the chicken stock and omit chicken breasts. Use 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) chopped extra firm tofu for the chicken.
- You can use 2 cups (500 ml) of cooked chopped or shredded chicken instead of cooking chicken for the recipe.

Luckily, she approves of it — even with the slightly sneaky addition of chickpeas for additional fibre! The chickpeas also add protein to keep you full.

Colourful and easy to make, it should quickly become your grandma's (and entire family's) favourite too.

1. In a saucepan, bring 1 1/4 cups (300 ml) of the sodium reduced chicken stock and brown rice to boil.

2. Reduce the heat to low. Cover and cook for about 25 minutes or until liquid is absorbed. Fluff with fork and set aside.

3. In a large nonstick skillet heat the sesame oil over medium high heat and cook boneless skinless chicken and sliced mushrooms for about 8 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink.

4. Add the chopped green onions, diced carrot, sliced celery, cooked chickpeas and

cooked rice. Cook, stirring for 2 another minutes to combine all of the flavours.

5. Add the remaining chicken stock and soy sauce and cook for 5 minutes. Add bean sprouts and toss to combine.

6. Serve on its own or with side of sautéed vegetables.



**PREP TIME**  
15 MINUTES

This recipe makes four servings. EMILY RICHARDS

# Light Asian flavours

Fried Asian food (think spring rolls, wontons) is a lot of people's fave, but who wants to deep-fry at home? Simple teriyaki chicken served in lettuce wraps is not only full of Asian flavours but healthier too.

1. In a small bowl, whisk together the soy sauce, honey, ginger, garlic powder, hot sauce and fish sauce. Set aside.

2. In a food processor, combine carrots and onion. Pulse until finely chopped. Add chicken, then pulse several times to begin chopping chicken. Add sauce, then continue pulsing just until chicken is well chopped, but not ground.

3. In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the chicken and cook, stirring often and breaking up any clumps, until cooked through, about 8 minutes. In a small glass, stir together the cornstarch and water, then add to the skillet. Stir and cook for another 2 minutes.

4. Transfer the chicken to one side of a serving platter. Arrange the lettuce leaves on the other side. Diners help themselves by spooning the chicken into individual leaves, using the leaves as they would a sand-

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup low-sodium soy sauce
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1 tbsp grated fresh ginger
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tsp hot sauce
- 1 tsp fish sauce
- 3 medium carrots, cut into chunks
- 1 small yellow onion, quartered
- 1 1/2 lbs boneless, skinless chicken thighs
- 2 tbsp canola oil
- 1 tbsp cornstarch
- 2 tbsp cool water
- 1 head Boston lettuce, separated into leaves (or similar broad, tender lettuce)

wich wrap.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Coach has Lightning peaking in playoffs

**NBL Canada.** No. 3 seed London has upset of Brampton under its belt and is looking for more vs. Windsor



**DAVE LANGFORD**

dave.langford@metronews.ca

Brampton A's coach David Magley admits he's a big fan of his counterpart with the London Lightning, Micheal Ray Richardson.

But Magley did share one of the National Basketball League of Canada's dirty little secrets just days before his team was eliminated by the Lightning.

"I think just because (Richardson) is demonstrative and because London has so much talent, there's an underlying belief that folks have in this league that he can't coach, but that's far from the truth," Magley said. "We've had good leads and we've lost them — more than once — and you just know that's he always on top of stuff."

Richardson and the Lightning, meanwhile, are still playing after eliminating Magley and the A's in the first round of the playoffs Saturday. This was despite the A's finishing second and London third in the regular season.

London is the two-time defending league champion with Richardson at the helm.

And now, the Lightning are one game up on the first-place Windsor Express after an impressive 95-87 victory Monday



**Micheal Ray Richardson, right, on Game 2 in Windsor on Wednesday: "If we play together as a unit, we can win anywhere."** ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

in the first game of the NBL's best-of-seven conference final.

Game 2 is Wednesday in Windsor.

Richardson denied this has been a particularly difficult season, despite the team-record 19 losses with 23 different players on the roster.

"I don't think it's been one of my toughest years," Richardson said Tuesday. "I think it's been an adjustment where we've had to make some changes. We've brought in quite a

few guys this year, and it just took some time for the guys to jell."

Richardson said his most challenging year was his first. It was 2004 and he was head coach of Albany Patroons of the Continental Basketball Association.

"I had a lot of college kids, and I think in my first month I used all my moves," he said.

Richardson said this season was just a case of getting the right players in the right roles.

"We have a great group of guys. Guys understanding their roles and have accepted their roles. Everybody is focused on the prize and that's to win another championship," he said. "It's about winning, it's about being focused for the 48 minutes and always be on top."

"You've got to look at certain situations, certain matchups. I try and stay focused. I take my job very, very seriously."

That he does. Just watch him.

## NBA

### Knicks introduce president Jackson

Phil Jackson has returned to the New York Knicks as their team president.

The Knicks announced Jackson's hiring Tuesday at a news conference in the lobby of Madison Square Garden, where a giant sign reading "Welcome Home Phil" was overhead and shirts with the No. 18 Jackson wore as a player lined the merchandise store.

Jackson signed a five-year contract that reportedly will pay him at least \$12 million annually and said he will spend significant time in New York.

"This is the best place to play basketball," Jackson said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



**Knicks team president Phil Jackson.** GETTY IMAGES

## Spring training

### Harvey still hopes for 2014 return

No matter what the New York Mets think, Matt Harvey is convinced he can pitch at some point this season.

The Mets ace had elbow ligament-replacement surgery Oct. 22 and hasn't thrown a baseball from more than 60 feet off flat ground. New York doesn't expect him to return until 2015. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Romero comes unravelled in Jays loss

Ricky Romero's comeback bid hit another road bump Tuesday in an ugly 18-4 Jays loss to a Detroit Tigers split squad.

The Toronto plan was for Romero and Marcus Stroman to combine for nine innings, with none of Toronto's established bullpen members along for the ride. Instead the Tigers treated Romero, Jeremy Jeffress, Stroman and Marcus Walden like batting practice pitchers.

Romero gave up a two-run homer to Austin Jackson in the second after hitting a Tiger to put him on base and yielded an-

## Miggy pulls the trigger

**Miguel Cabrera hit a long solo home run and a sacrifice fly as a Detroit Tigers split squad lost to the New York Mets 5-4 Tuesday in Port St. Lucie, Fla. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

other run in an unsightly third inning that featured a triple, four walks and two wild pitches. It could have been far worse but two Tigers were caught stealing in the inning.

The left-hander exited after 2 2/3 innings, giving way to Jeffress. Unofficially Romero threw 57 pitches, 23 for strikes on a sunny day in Lakeland Fla.

"We've taken too many steps forward to dwell on this," Romero said afterwards.

Romero and Jeffress walked eight between them in the first four innings.

Things continued to fall apart when Stroman gave up a walk, four singles and a grand slam homer to Don Kelly in a fifth inning that went from bad to worse. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



**Ricky Romero had a tough Tuesday, but the blowout doesn't rest entirely on his shoulders. He was pulled long before the Jays gave up nine runs in the fifth inning to give the Tigers a 13-0 lead. CARLOS OSORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**





Saginaw Spirit hockey players attend a funeral service for teammate Terry Trafford in Toronto on Tuesday. The Toronto native's body was found last Wednesday in his SUV in a parking lot in Saginaw Township, Mich.

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Family, friends, teammates say goodbye to OHL player

Saginaw Spirit forward Terry Trafford was remembered Tuesday as a thoughtful, fun-loving young man who made everyone around him smile.

Several of his teammates on the Ontario Hockey League club wore their red and blue jerseys at the afternoon funeral service, which was held almost a week after Trafford's body was discovered in his SUV in a parking lot in Saginaw Township, Mich.

An autopsy determined Trafford died of self-inflicted

### Quoted

**"It doesn't make sense. Sure, everybody wished they'd knew. But I don't really know."**

Saginaw player Justin Kea on what drove teammate Terry Trafford to commit suicide.

asphyxiation. The 20-year-old Toronto native disappeared earlier in the month after being disciplined by the club for a violation of team rules.

Trafford's teammates and

family members sat in the first two rows of the packed funeral home. A tall, single candle was lit beside the flower-draped casket, with one of Trafford's old hockey jerseys displayed beside it.

After a one-hour service, the Spirit players were the first to file out of the Ward Funeral Home on a chilly, sunny afternoon. Standing on both sides of the exit area, his teammates raised their hockey sticks in the air as the casket was carried to a waiting hearse. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Trafford's death leaves so many questions



DAVE LANGFORD  
dave.langford@metronews.ca

The tragic suicide of Saginaw Spirit hockey player Terry Trafford has left a trail of tears and trauma, almost too much to handle for the powerful major junior hockey community.

The funeral was Tuesday in Toronto, but the questions began the day it was first reported that the Ontario Hockey League player had gone missing.

Yes, it appears mistakes were made in relaying news to Trafford and his family that the 20-year-old had been dropped from the team and was not welcome back this season. That much we seem to know.

But what about the policies and procedures of major junior hockey teams in the wake of the senseless tragedy?

Dr. Natascha Wesch, a former star athlete with the Canadian women's rugby team and now a sports psychologist based in London, is closer than most to the epicentre of the bureaucratic earthquake that



Terry Trafford TERRY WILSON/OHL IMAGES

may lay ahead.

She is the help needed when the London Knights organization senses trouble with players off the ice.

"I don't think the OHL has a policy that somebody must be there," Wesch said in an interview with Metro. "Does each team call on someone? I would say that no, not each team has somebody. Now should each team? Absolutely."

The reasons, Wesch said, for looking deeper into the league issues following Trafford's death are more than they appear on the surface.

"I think not only from the psychological, emotional and just the right thing to do, but

also from a liability perspective," she said. "If you think from just a business perspective, pure and simple business, if I have an employee that comes in drunk, I just can't let them go home. I have to provide for their safety and make sure I call a cab and do all those things."

Wesch said a professional outside the team's management, player agents and billets are needed to provide confidential help to the junior hockey players, on a moment's notice if needed.

"These athletes are physically ready to play. They're potentially, I will argue, emotionally ready to play, but once something breaks down, who is there to help them recover and put the pieces back together?"

"Well, if your leg breaks, you've got a physician there. If your tooth breaks, you've got a dentist there. If your brain, if you will, your psyche breaks, well you're supposed to figure that out all on your own because you are a tough hockey player."

That, Wesch said, is what needs to change immediately. It's just unfortunate a player had to die before the discussion began.

"That's what needs to happen sometimes. Look at the Sidney Crosby situation. How many people had concussions before him, but all of a sudden it became important," she said.

### Quoted

**"I just think you are asking young men to be prepared to behave and have the cognitive and coping abilities of an adult without giving them, for the most part, any of the tools to do so."**

Dr. Natascha Wesch, London sports psychologist

### NFL

## Newton to go under the knife

The Carolina Panthers have announced that quarterback Cam Newton will undergo surgery Wednesday on his left ankle and will be sidelined for four months.

The team says he has experienced soreness in the ankle since the end of last season.

Newton led the Panthers to a 12-4 record last season and the NFC South championship and was selected to the Pro Bowl.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Miami Heat. Reigning champs will hold clinic for Filipino players

The U.S. State Department says it is teaming with the Miami Heat and coach Erik Spoelstra this week to host 16 players and two coaches from the Philippines, which is still dealing with the aftereffects of the typhoon that struck last fall.

Spoelstra's mother is from the Philippines. He was actively involved in fundraising efforts after that storm, which killed thousands and simply destroyed part of the country.

Plans call for Spoelstra to

### Did you know?

Heat coach Erik Spoelstra served as a U.S. State Department Sports Envoy to the Philippines in 2009.

provide basketball clinics, facility tours and pre-game interaction with current Heat players before hosting the Memphis Grizzlies on Friday night. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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# Smile big in the 2014 Mini Cooper



PHOTOS: WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

## 2014 Mini Cooper

- **Type.** Two-door, front-wheel-drive sub-compact hatchback
- **Engines (hp).** 1.5-litre DOHC I3, turbocharged (134); 2.0-litre DOHC I4, turbocharged (189).
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic (opt.)
- **Base price (incl. destination).** \$22,750



## Fuel economy

The base Cooper's already-decent fuel economy should improve to about 6.9 l/100 km in the city and 5.4 on the highway with the six-speed stick (up from 7.4/5.7).

## Design

The length of the two-door hatchback (Mini insists on calling it a hardtop) has increased by 11.5 centimetres, all ahead of the doors. That's also where the most obvious changes occur, including the trapezoidal grille and blacked-out bumper. The windshield is also a little steeper, which gives the Mini a sleeker appearance.

**Review.** The same ... but totally different? This shouldn't really come as a surprise to anyone

MALCOLM GUNN  
wheelbasemedia.com

Some cars can make you smile, whether you're behind the wheel, riding as a passenger, or watching them drive down the street.

Since its 2002 model-year arrival, the Mini Cooper has enjoyed a growing number of admirers, due in no small part to the Mini brand adding more and more models.

The third-generation BMW-built Mini, which goes on sale this spring, should elicit the same appreciative grins even if to the casual observer it appears much the same as before.

Hard-core Mini fans will, however, note significant changes afoot everywhere, which is because virtually every aspect of the Mini Cooper is brand new.

The extra 4.5 centimetres in width is good news for passengers and should also make for flatter cornering. As well, an extra three centimetres between the front and rear wheels doesn't sound like much, but for rear-seat riders, who can now recline the split-folding back cushion for added comfort, every little bit helps. There's also slightly more stowage space with the rear seat in the upright position.

The rest of the cabin has undergone a major retooling. Most obvious, the centre-stack-mounted speedometer has been relocated to the steering column. It's flanked by a half-moon tachometer to the left and the fuel gauge lights on the right.

The clock-like centre-stack pod carries over and houses the infotainment, communications and navigation systems that are controlled by a rotary dial on the floor console. Near it are pushbuttons for the air conditioning, ventilation and seat warmers plus toggle switches for other functions such as traction and

stability control that reduce the likelihood of skids and spins in adverse conditions.

Easily the most radical change is found under the hood as there are two new powerplants. Base models run with a turbocharged 1.5-litre three-cylinder that puts out 134 horsepower and 162 pound-feet of torque. That's up considerably from the previous non-turbo 1.6-litre four-cylinder's 121 horsepower and relatively puny 114 pound-feet of torque.

Moving up to the Cooper S puts you in control of a turbocharged 2.0-litre four-cylinder with 189 horsepower and 207 pound-feet of torque (the 2013 Cooper S generated 181 horses and 208 pound-feet of torque).

The new standard six-speed manual transmission has a more precise shift linkage, while a six-speed automatic is optional.

Both engines feature an overboost function to provide a bit more torque for a few seconds (good for added passing power) when the gas pedal is floored. Overboost also

helps the base cars achieve a zero-to-100 km/h time of 7.9 seconds, versus 8.6 seconds for the previous base four-cylinder. The Cooper S can do it in 6.8 seconds (previously 7.0), as measured by Mini.

For 2014, the base price is \$22,750, including destination charges, but there are several new options that could tempt you to spend more. They include an adjustable suspension with Comfort and Sport settings as well as a Head-Up-Display that projects speed and basic navigation info onto a dash-mounted pop-up monitor. The oddest accessory is the self-park feature to guide a skills-deficient Mini driver into an appropriate spot. Honestly, anyone unable to parallel-park a car this small should consider purchasing a bus pass.

However, the additions and improvements to the Mini Cooper give it more of a real-car persona, which makes it feel less like a novelty. That should also make it much easier to justify as a purchase and much easier to live with.

## Compare



**1** Fiat 500  
Base price: \$17,700



**2** Volkswagen Golf  
Base price: \$21,000



**3** Hyundai Elantra  
Base price: \$19,900

5 DRIVE

# Electric in Alaska without the worry

**AutoKnow.** Out here you want to focus on experiencing life and not be concerned about making it home. The Chevy Volt makes the perfect playmate

GARRY  
SOWERBY  
wheelbasemedia.com

The burning question about electric cars is how well they work in the real world. Not some urban area with two-kilometre daily commutes and electrical outlets every 10 steps.

Out in the “real world” there’s the dreaded range anxiety, where you just don’t know how far, exactly, your car will take you. It’s not like there’s a charge station on every corner and you have three hours to kill waiting for a battery top-up. In Alaska, if you run out . . .

It doesn’t get much more real than that. As event planners, my wife, Lisa Calvi, and I changed hotels 10 times in less than two weeks during an extended business trip here.

Hey, I’m cranky for it, and for a morning guy who is rarely out of sorts, my mood is as much a surprise to me as my unsuspecting wife.

“I’m sorry Lisa, I’ll snap out of it,” I offer, realizing this will be our only day off before getting back to work.

We pack our suitcases and office supplies into the hatchback of the Chevrolet Volt. This is a normal car, I remind myself, stuffing the last of the suitcases into the cargo area, which is massive with the rear seats folded down.

We head south out of Anchorage toward the Kenai Peninsula. Lisa and I booked a six-hour glacier cruise out of Whittier and have an appointment at the “tunnel” which is the only land connection from the port of Whittier to the rest of the world.

We clear Anchorage and follow the highway along Turnagain Arm. The tides are low and the mudflats seem endless. As my brooding levels out,

## Impressive

**The Volt’s agility and comfort surprises me. This is not a fad car or something that has to be babied or fussed over.**

## Peace of mind

**It doesn’t matter that we’re driving about 300 kilometres that day. Once the battery runs down, an on-board four-cylinder gasoline-powered generator will kick in and extend our range for another 500 or so kilometres.**

the silent, comfortable ride of the Volt reminds me that we are indeed running on electricity and will be for about 50 kilometres.

It doesn’t matter that we’re driving about 300 kilometres that day. Once the battery runs down, an on-board four-cylinder gasoline-powered generator will kick in and extend our range for another 500 or so kilometres. Sure we might consume some fossil fuel, but there is no pesky “my-battery-is-running-low-range-anxiety” with the Volt.

The idea of leaving home for a weekend road trip with an electric vehicle is normally a dicey proposition, unless the plan doesn’t involve much driving, because range is short and charging takes a long time . . . if you can find somewhere to charge.

That makes the Chevy Volt a compelling alternative. It’s an electric car that doesn’t need a back-up vehicle beside it in the driveway.

It doesn’t take long to cheer up. The scenery is stunning. A glacier here, snow-capped mountain there. With a little luck we might see the “tidal bore,” a wall of rushing water that marks the changing of the tides on Turnagain Arm.

We make our tunnel time and file through a three-kilometre railway tunnel with a line of other cars and trucks en route to rustic Whittier. Cool.

From Whittier, the cruise through Prince William Sound is a spellbinding affair that stops briefly at a remote fish hatchery where salmon are jumping, rafts of sea otters are frisking and bald eagles swooping. It’s like an advertisement for animal heaven. Later we swing close to Surprise Glacier where the Captain cuts the engines so we can see and “hear” the glaciers. Creek, wham, slam. It has been going on for millions of years.

Back in Whittier, I power up the Volt. The battery charge is depleted but the four-cylinder gasoline generator engine keeps the charge between 20



Alaska is full of interesting wildlife like whales ...



... and a healthy seal population.

and 29 per cent so we’re not concerned about anything but making the tunnel appointment time to get us back to the main road.

The drive south through the Kenai Peninsula is nothing short of spectacular. Uneearthly blue glaciers casually hang off some of them. We take a detour to tiny Hope and feast on the best fish and chips ever at Seaview Café.

The Volt’s agility and comfort surprises me. This is not a fad car or something that has to be babied or fussed over. Plug it into a 110-volt power supply overnight or a 220-volt outlet for a few hours and it’s ready to fulfill most commuting requirements. Pack it up for the weekend and take it wherever you want to.

Later that night we pull into Seward at the southern end of the peninsula. Plenty of activities are available there from glacier helicopter hiking to sea kayaking and dog sledding. We check into the Van Gilder, Seward’s oldest hotel that is supposed to be haunted by the ghost of a woman murdered there in 1950.

“You want the room where it happened?” the pleasant receptionist asks. “We’ll pass,” I respond, checking out the slack look on Lisa’s face. “Do you have a place to plug in my car? It’s a Chevy Volt and charging it tonight will give me an electrified head-start tomorrow.”

There’s no outside receptacle. It doesn’t matter though, because the Chevy Volt is one electric car that can live in the real world.



The Volt is an electric car that you don’t have to charge up, although that’s not the most efficient way to drive it. But that does mean you can take it as far as you like, without a power plug, as long as there are gas stations. ALL IMAGES WHEELBASE



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## Horoscopes

### Aries

March 21 - April 20

If you make a wish over the next two or three days, it may come true. With the Sun moving into your birth sign tomorrow, marking the start of a new solar year, you are likely to get whatever you ask for.

### Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Whatever information you may have that others do not you should treat it like gold dust today. The less others know about what you are up to, the more you will benefit.

### Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you play your cards right over the next few days, there is every chance that some of your big dreams will start to come true. The dividing line between fantasy and reality is quite narrow.

### Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Important people are watching you closely, so make sure they like what they see. The Sun's move into the career area of your chart tomorrow will energize you and make you more ambitious.

### Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Make sure facts are on your side if you want to make an issue out of something. Remember, it's not enough to tell others that they are doing it wrong. They also need to be shown how to do it right.

### Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

If your sixth sense tells you that something isn't quite right, listen to it and refrain from doing anything that might lead you down the wrong path — especially financially.

### Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

As the Sun is about to move into the relationship area of your chart you should make more of an effort to get along with the people around you, even those you don't like.

### Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You need to start thinking about cutting back on work. The past few weeks have been a time of great activity and your momentum will keep you going for a while yet, but your body needs a break.

### Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

No matter how difficult the past few weeks have been, your affairs will improve dramatically as of tomorrow. Cheer up and stop acting as if the world is about to end.

### Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

The Sun's change of signs tomorrow means you can come to grips with a family issue that has been causing you plenty of grief. Let loved ones know what you think and how you feel and invite them to be honest with you as well.

### Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

The more you are on the move over the next few days, the more likely it is you will find answers to the questions you have been asking. You may not be thrilled by some of the things you learn but the truth is about facts, not feelings.

### Pisces

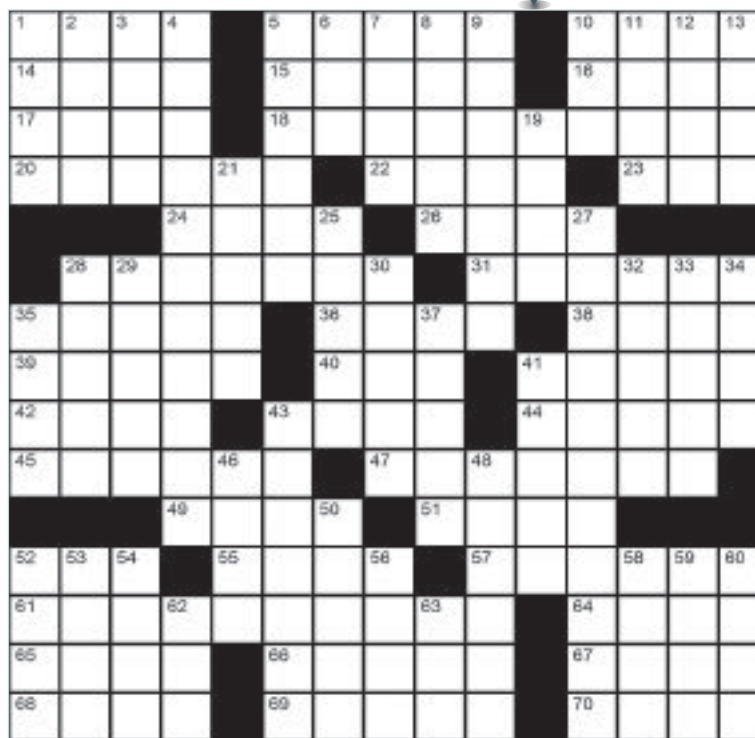
Feb. 20 - March 20

Good news concerning your finances is coming your way in the next few days. You won't get something for nothing but you'll at least have more cash in your pocket. **SALLY BROMPTON**

## Crossword: Canada Across and Down

### Across

- Ointment
- House's behind-the-walls sights
- \_\_\_ Lake, Alberta
- Parkay, for one
- Totally ticked
- Cleaving tool
- Sham
- "This Hour Has 22 Minutes" cast member: 2 wds.
- Turn to for trusty support: 2 wds.
- Website's main page
- Stylish sash
- Glass-making stuff
- Fly elegantly
- Venezuela's capital
- Takes the pen's 'lid' off
- Full range
- "\_\_\_ Lap" (1983)
- Vegan's no-no
- \_\_\_ and beyond
- Geological period
- Book part
- Wine, in Italy
- What 'i' has on top, \_\_\_
- Sound-making cow
- Immerse
- Terri Clark hit: "Poor, Poor \_\_\_ Me"
- Chesterfield
- Jan & Dean's "\_\_\_ City"
- Perform
- Ms. Del Rey
- Peanut butter brand



- 1990 Kiefer Sutherland movie in which Julia Roberts also starred
- Concern
- Glowing light
- Countrified
- All square
- Stack of paper
- Gradient

- George W. Bush, et al.

### Down

- 1922 Nobel Prize in Physics winner, Niels \_\_\_
- Cosmetic cream's content
- Actress, Sharon \_\_\_

- "King of Spain": Hit tune for what Canadian band?: 2 wds.
- Checked blanket dining experience
- Mr. Levin
- Way
- Set of values
- British actress Jane
- Corp. bigwig con-

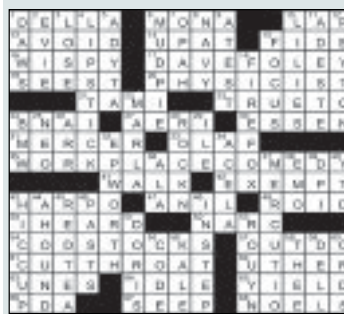
- cerned with money
- "Deal \_\_\_ Deal"
- Singer/songwriter Lisa
- Mr. Arnaz
- Former PM Mr. Chretien
- Pontificate
- Recorded
- Red coat wearing

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers).

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

- police person: acr. + word
- Log abode
- Surrounded by
- Salt-n-Pepa song
- Friends to 'and sometimes Y'
- \_\_\_ truck
- 'Trick' suffix
- Handed
- 'Nay' sides in debates
- Insincere smile
- Matters
- \_\_\_ around (Lounge)
- Bitty brawl
- Overturn
- From way out there
- Crossword \_\_\_
- Charlottetown-born singer Ms. MacLean
- Prefix with 'dynamic'
- Finish a road
- Get set
- Cravings
- Glasgow topper
- Knock

## Yesterday's Crossword



## Sudoku

### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

## Yesterday's Sudoku

5	4	2	1	3	7	6	9	8
9	8	6	5	2	4	1	7	3
7	1	3	8	6	9	2	4	5
2	7	5	4	1	8	9	3	6
6	3	1	9	7	2	5	8	4
4	9	8	6	5	3	7	2	1
3	5	7	2	8	6	4	1	9
8	6	4	7	9	1	3	5	2
1	2	9	3	4	5	8	6	7

9		8		2			5	1
	1	6						
			1					7
2		5	8					
1			2		3			6
				7	1			8
5				4				
						3	8	
	3	7		1		9		4

Today

6°/-3°

Rain

90%

Thursday

1°/-4°

Flurries

60%

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